

FEDERAL LEAGUE GETS GROUNDS IN BROOKLYN

Thief Tries to Get at Whitman's Graft Evidence

A COMPLETE NOVEL
EACH WEEK
IN
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BURGLAR TRIES TO STEAL EVIDENCE OF STATE GRAFT FROM WHITMAN'S SAFE

Chief Prober Clark Finds
Broken Key in Lock of
Steel Cabinet.

LOCKSMITH IS CALLED.

Thief Supposed to Have En-
tered From Window Lead-
ing to Corridor.

It was discovered this afternoon
that some time yesterday, when the
Criminal Courts Building was closed,
or during last night, a bold attempt
was made to break into the big steel
cabinet where every bit of in-
criminating evidence against the po-
litical grafters accused in the John
Doe investigation into State graft is kept.

How entrance was gained to As-
sistant District Attorney John Kirk-
land Clark's office, where the cabinet
stands, by the would-be raider of the
records has not been discovered; but,
as the door was not forced, it is sup-
posed that the intruder gained access
to the office by means of a window
opening on the corridor, although so
far no marks of a jimmy or other in-
strument that might have been used
to force the sash have been found.

Mr. Clark and his chief clerk, James
Barry, were in Albany yesterday and
Barry returned to the office to-day
at the regular time. Assistant Dis-
trict Attorney Edwards, Mr. Clark's
chief aide in the John Doe proceed-
ings, which have been going on for
four months, told Barry to get him
certain records from the safe.

Barry tried in vain to open it and
finally gave up the attempt after
tinkering with the lock for an hour
or more. There was a theory, until
a locksmith arrived, that the intense
cold had contracted the metal, making
it impossible to insert a key in the
keyhole.

When the locksmith arrived he was
not long in finding out that a delib-
erate attempt to open the safe had
been made, presumably by somebody
or the agent of somebody deeply com-
plicated in the outcome of the John
Doe proceedings.

In the lock of the safe was found
the broken off "ward" of a brand new
key with about half an inch of the
shank, where it had been twisted
off. Detectives were set to work on
the case, but beyond the key, which
apparently was a new one made es-
pecially for the attempt on the safe,
they have not so far anything to
guide them.

Mr. Clark declined to comment
upon the attempt to rob the
record cabinet except to say
that an evident plot to steal
some important papers had been
frustrated when the key shank broke
off. As a result of the incident Mr.
Clark's office will be equipped with a
burglar alarm system.

FRIDAY, THE THIRTEENTH,
THIS CHAP'S LUCKY DAY

Tosses Away a Rabbit's Foot as He
Is Freed From
Prison.

CAMDEN, N. J., Feb. 13.—After
months spent in the Camden Jail,
Charles De Forrest was free to-day.
He promptly took a worn rabbit's
foot from a pocket, threw it on the
ground and said:
"Any man who can get out of jail
on Friday, the thirteenth, doesn't
need protection from evil spirits."

ENGLISHMEN CANNOT
MANAGE RAILROAD;
CALL THIS AMERICAN.



CAN'T FIND ENGLISHMAN
CAPABLE AS MANAGER;
AMERICAN IS SELECTED

General Superintendent Thor-
nton Will Assume Control of
Great Eastern Railway.

A cablegram from London to-day
announces that Henry W. Thornton
of Garden City, L. I., general super-
intendent of the Long Island Railroad
since 1911, has been appointed Gen-
eral Manager of the Great Eastern
Railway of England, one of the most
important systems in the United
Kingdom. Mr. Thornton sailed for
England Jan. 28 to look over the situ-
ation and determine his course.

Mr. Thornton is the first American
to be called to Europe to take charge
of an important railroad system. He
is a graduate of the University of
Pennsylvania and started with the
Pennsylvania Railroad at the bottom
of the ladder, climbing until he be-
came General Superintendent of the
lines west of Pittsburgh. The Penn-
sylvania management brought him to
New York to manage the Long Island
Railroad when the work of electrify-
ing the system got under way three
years ago. He goes to the Great East-
ern at a large salary.

In announcing the appointment of
Mr. Thornton at the annual meeting
of the Great Eastern Railway Com-
pany in London, Lord Claude Hamil-
ton, the Chairman, remarked that
the company had been obliged to go
to the United States for a new gen-
eral manager, as there is a great
shortage of men for the most promi-
nent positions on British railways.
Lord Claude Hamilton said he
thought there was something patri-
otic in the British system, which tended
to interfere with the mental activity
of employees, who are reduced to
automatons, merit being sacrificed to
seniority. He said he had not been
able to find in England a man fit for
the post, but in Mr. Thornton he had
found a general manager admirably
qualified and one whose career was
one succession of intellectual railway
triumphs.

Killed With Son's Revolver.
Edward Murray, who was sixty-six
years old and lived at No. 207 Monitor
street, Greenpoint, was cleaning a re-
volver belonging to his son, James H.
Murray, a policeman of the Greenpoint
avenue station, this afternoon, when he
discharged it accidentally and the bullet
entered his left breast, killing him in-
stantly.

FIVE MEN KILLED; TOWN SHAKEN BY POWDER EXPLOSION

Packing House of Plant Owned
By Dupont Company Un-
roofed at Kenil, N. J.

TWO DIED LIKE FATHERS.

Men Had Been Working at Top
Speed on Powder Order
From Mexico.

(Special to The Evening World.)
DOVER, N. J., Feb. 13.—With a
roar that shook the country for miles
around, the packing house of the
Hercules Powder Works at Kenil,
N. J., near here, blew up early to-day,
killing the five men who were at work
in the building. The danger attend-
ing work in a powder mill is attested
by the fact that the fathers of two
of the victims were killed by similar
explosions—one in the same plant.

The victims are:
PHILIP BART of Kenil, unmar-
ried, and the only support of his
widowed mother. His father was
killed by an explosion at the same
plant two years ago.

CHARLES RUMBLE of Reynolds,
Pa., unmarried and the sole support
of his mother. His father was killed
by an explosion at the Reynolds plant
of the Du Pont Company two years
ago.

JOHN LANTERMAN, formerly of
Dover. Just before the Christmas
holidays he married Miss Olive Hen-
derson of Kenil, who survives him.

JOHN WORTH of Haskell, N. J.
He had been employed in the plant
only about three weeks.

RAYMOND SCHURMAN of Lodge-
wood, N. J. He was unmarried. He
was working at the plant as a sub-
stitute for another man.

MAKING POWDER TO BE SENT
TO MEXICO.

The Hercules plant is owned by the
Du Pont Powder Company, and has
been engaged in making powder for
the Mexican Government. As is usual
in powder plants, the buildings are
small, of light construction, and scat-
tered over a considerable territory to
avoid the danger of an explosion at
one point setting off the whole works.

Recently the plant has been work-
ing at the top of its capacity on a
Mexican order. As the powder was
manufactured it was transferred to
the packing room, a corrugated iron
structure, twenty-five by fifty feet.

The data of the five men employed
there was to pack the powder away
in heavy cans. This is dangerous
work and although every precaution
is taken in packing powder it is in
the packing room that most of the
explosions occur.

No one knows what caused to-day's
explosion. A spark from some move-
ment of one of the men or the strik-
ing together of two of the cans may
have set off the loose powder and then
caused the blowing up of the
powder already in the cans. That
the loose powder flashed first, filling
the little packing house with an in-
tense burst of flame, is evidenced by
the fact that the flesh is burned from
the bodies of the victims. They were
dead before the big explosion oc-
curred.

ROOF BLOWN OFF BY FORCE OF
THE EXPLOSION.

The roof of the building was blown
off and the little woodwork in the
structure caught fire after the explo-
sion. The company maintains its own
fire department, and the blaze was
quickly extinguished. The bodies of
the victims were found on the ground
at the points where they had been
standing when the loose powder
caught fire.

Coroner Lewis of Boonton is mak-
ing an investigation, but about all he
can do is certify that five men met
their end in an explosion. The risk
attending employment in a powder mill
is taken by those so employed as part
of the day's work and no difficulty
is experienced in getting men to run
the hazards.

FOR RACING SEE PAGE 18.

"BIG BILL" ONLY "AN OLD FLAME" OF HERS, SHE SAYS

Close Friend When He Was a
Football Player, Explains
Mrs. Stonebreaker.

'TIS ONLY JEALOUSY.

Nothing Else in It, She Says—
Proof Against Twelve Men,
Says the Husband.

Mrs. Constance Stonebreaker, whose
husband, Joseph R. Stonebreaker, has
subpoenaed "Big Bill" Edwards, for-
mer Street Cleaning Commissioner, to
testify in the divorce suit Stone-
breaker has filed against his wife,
said to-day that "Big Bill" was an old
admirer of hers, and that her hus-
band was unjustified in bringing the
former commissioner's name into the
case.

"Big Bill" was an old flame of
mine," said Mrs. Stonebreaker to-day
as she sat in a big arm chair in the
office of her husband's attorney, A.
Choate & Musgrave, at No. 11 Cham-
bers street. "At one time people
said we were engaged, but then you
know Southern girls are usually en-
gaged three times before the right
man comes along. I knew 'Big Bill'
as a football player in Princeton and
I have always regarded him as a
close friend.

"I know why my husband has
brought 'Big Bill's' name into this.
Joe—my husband—is jealous; he's al-
ways been jealous of my friends.
HUSBAND ALWAYS JEALOUS OF
HER FRIENDS.

"I'm not worrying, though. All my
friends are standing by me. In fact,
they have called me up on the phone
since this suit became public and
they assured me that they would
stand by me. What's more, I have
never wronged my husband and he
knows it."

Mrs. Stonebreaker chuckled as she
talked, flashing her big blue eyes
rather angrily when "Big Bill's"
name was mentioned. She explained
that she had come to her husband's
lawyers because one of them, Mr.
Choate, was an old friend of hers as
well as of her husband. Mr. Choate
said that he was surprised to see
Mrs. Stonebreaker come into his of-
fice as she had retained the firm of
Doe Passon Brothers of No. 20 Broad-
way to defend her.

Mrs. Stonebreaker's mission to the
law office proved to be more than a
social call. She spent half an hour
consulting with Mr. Musgrave, plead-
ing with him to do all he could to
keep the names of her children out
of the case.

TOLD TO APPEAL TO HER OWN
LAWYERS.

"My daughter Nancy may some day
be a woman and I don't want this
case to prove a burden for her to
carry in later years when she is
grown," Mrs. Stonebreaker explained
to the lawyer.

Mrs. Stonebreaker seemed anxious to
have the trial of the case sent to a
referee for a private hearing, but her
husband's attorneys told her that she
had better consult her own lawyers,
as they had already asked for a bill
of particulars setting forth the names
of the various co-respondents, when
and where she met them and this
bill would be bound to come out in
open court.

Mrs. Stonebreaker made it plain,
however, that she did not want the
divorce suit dismissed at this time.

"I am going to fight," she said, as
she left the office. "And if my friends
stand by me I'll win. My husband
hasn't a leg to stand on. And if I am
freed, will I marry again? Never
again—not me."

STONEBREAKER SAYS HE HAS
ABSOLUTE PROOF.

After Mrs. Stonebreaker had gone,
Mr. Musgrave announced that he had
called off his New York police ser-
ver, temporarily. The man in Pitts-
burg who is waiting with a subpoena
for a Street Trust official who lives
there is still on the job.
An hour after she had left the law
office, Stonebreaker himself appeared.
He was surprised to learn that his
wife had been there before him and
his first question was as to whether
she had come to seek a reconcilia-
tion.

Defends "Big Bill" Edwards Against Husband's Charge



MACHINE GUNS SENT BY BRITISH TO MEXICO CITY

Landed by Marines From War-
ship and Believed for Defense
of the Legation.

VERA CRUZ, Feb. 13.—A party of
British bluejackets landed two ma-
chine guns from the British flagship
Suffolk late last night and placed
them on board a car on the Mexican
railway consigned to the British
Legation in Mexico City. With the
guns was sent a great quantity of
ammunition. It is assumed here that
the guns and ammunition are in-
tended for the defense of the British
Legation in case of an uprising in
the Federal capital.

Willitt Appeal is Postponed in
Brooklyn.

Application for a certificate of reason-
able doubt made on behalf of ex-Con-
gressman William Willitt Jr., convicted
of buying his nomination for Justice of
the Supreme Court, was adjourned un-
til Feb. 18 by Justice Blackman in the
second court, Brooklyn, to-day. The
decision in the application for a certi-
ficate of reasonable doubt for ex-Illus
"Curly Joe" Cassidy and his political
ally, Louis T. Walter Jr., will be handed
down within a few days.

Woman Aflame in the Street.

Mrs. Dora Tannenbaum, No. 246 Stock-
ton street, Brooklyn, ran into the street
to-day with her clothing in flames. She
had fought off neighbors who had run
to her aid when her skirt caught fire
from the kitchen range. Policemen
later stopped her and smothered the
flames with his coat. Mrs. Tannenbaum
was taken to the Williamsburg Hospital
by Dr. Ralph. She has little chance of
recovery.

office, Stonebreaker himself appeared.
He was surprised to learn that his
wife had been there before him and
his first question was as to whether
she had come to seek a reconcilia-
tion.

"There'll be nothing like that in my
family," said Stonebreaker. "I'm go-
ing through with this. There are
eighteen men who could be called in
this case to testify but I've only got
evidence against twelve and in the
case of the twelve the proof is abso-
lute."

FEDERAL LEAGUE PUTS TEAM IN BROOKLYN; BOSTONS GET EVERS

Wholesale Baker Ward, Believed to
Be Backed by Frick Millions,
Leases Old Home of Dodgers
Across the Bridge.

DIRECTORS OF NATIONALS
TAKE UP EVERS CASE

Ex-Cub Second Baseman Gets \$20,-
000 Bonus and \$10,000 Salary
From Boston Nationals

Let's this afternoon Johnny Evers announced he would sign a Boston
contract. According to its terms, he gets a \$20,000 bonus and \$10,000 salary.
Murphy of the Cubs loses both Perdue and Sweeney, whom Boston origi-
nally offered in trade for the second baseman.

Backed by the millions of Henry C. Frick, and possibly those of the
Goulds, the Federal League will invade Greater New York this season as
rivals to the National and American baseball organizations. This was
made known to-day when it was positively said that Washington Park,
Brooklyn, the old home of the Dodgers, had been leased for a term of
years at an annual rental of \$16,000.

WOMEN SEE SALESMAN DIE UNDER SUBWAY TRAIN

Borough Hall, Brooklyn, Station
Crowded When Man Leaps
to Death.

A man, so far not positively iden-
tified, apparently about forty years
old, jumped in front of a subway
train in the Borough Hall, Brooklyn,
station late this afternoon, at a time
when the platform of the station
were crowded with men and women.
He was instantly killed.

From letters and papers found in
his pocket he is supposed to have
been A. Knapp of No. 751 Quinoy
street, Brooklyn, a travelling sales-
man for a tea house.

The train, bound for Atlantic ave-
nue, was rolling into the station when
Motorman Stephen Wicks saw the
man jump directly in front of the
first car. Wicks jammed down his
brakes with such violence that pas-
sengers were thrown about in their
seats.

The wheels of the first car passed
over the man, cutting him to pieces.
Women screamed and there was al-
most a panic.

WILSON SICK, IS UNABLE TO MEET JERSEY FOLK

President's Cold Getting Better, but
Doctor Refuses to Let Him At-
tend Reception To-Night.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The fol-
lowing statement was issued at the
White House late to-day:
"Secretary Taft announced this
afternoon that, agreeable to the ad-
vice of his physician, the President
had decided not to attend the New
Jersey reception to-night. The Presi-
dent insisted, however, that the re-
ception be held. The President's cold
is satisfactorily responding to treat-
ment, but Dr. Grayson believes it is
best that he remain in his room for
the day."

President Wilson was forced to
cancel a Cabinet meeting to-day and
remained entirely sequestered.

President Gilmore made an official
announcement late this afternoon that
Toronto will be dropped from the new
circuit in favor of Brooklyn. He also
said that the stock of the new team
will be controlled by the Ward fam-
ily, with R. B. Ward President, Wal-
ter Ward, a nephew, Treasurer, and
John Montgomery Ward, Business
Manager.
Johnny Ward will have nothing to
do with the players, however. The
name of a player-manager will be an-
nounced later.
Adding to this announcement, Gil-
more said, a new deal and contract
stand will be built to accommodate
15,000, and would be ready in time for
the season's opening.
The lease for Washington Park was
signed last night with Edward H.
Litchfield, who manages the estate. It
is for ten years, containing the privi-
lege of buying finally.
Gilmore said he could not announce
the team the Federals will put across
the bridge, but it would be a good one.
The club, he said, would be controlled
by a stock company, but that there
would be no public sale of stock, the
Ward family controlling it all.
The report of the Gould interest in
the Federals' baseball venture grew
out of the appearance of Finley J.
Shepard, who married Helen Gould,
in conference with the Federals' President,
Gilmore, at the Knickerbocker Hotel to-day.
It was admitted at the Broadway
offices of Finley J. Shepard this after-
noon that he had conferred with
President Gilmore but that the meet-
ing was simply a "get-together let-
a-lete of two old club mates."
"Mr. Shepard and Mr. Gilmore are
very close friends and have been for
years," said Shepard's private secre-
tary. "I don't know that Mr. Shepard
has or intends to become financially
interested in the Federal League.
Undoubtedly Mr. Shepard expressed
interest in Mr. Gilmore's venture,
since they are such close friends."
The trip East of the prime mover
of the Federal League just at the
time when the National and Ameri-
can League magnates were in session
here was for the express purpose of
putting a team in Brooklyn and after
Johnny Evers' break with Chicago
of the Chicago Cubs, the possi-
bility of a new team in Brooklyn.
(Continued on Page Twenty-two.)